



Dr J. P. Lee, author, publisher and dental surgeon, has been writing stories about childhood traumas and unresolved past issues that haunt many people. His first publication, DUSK TO DAWN, has helped many to get in touch with their true feelings of fear, pain and insecurity. Dr Lee also gives talks on Spirituality and Self Awareness by combining scriptures with psychology and medicine, and conducts spiritual workshops based on the theme: "To learn the truth, you first need to unlearn the untruth."

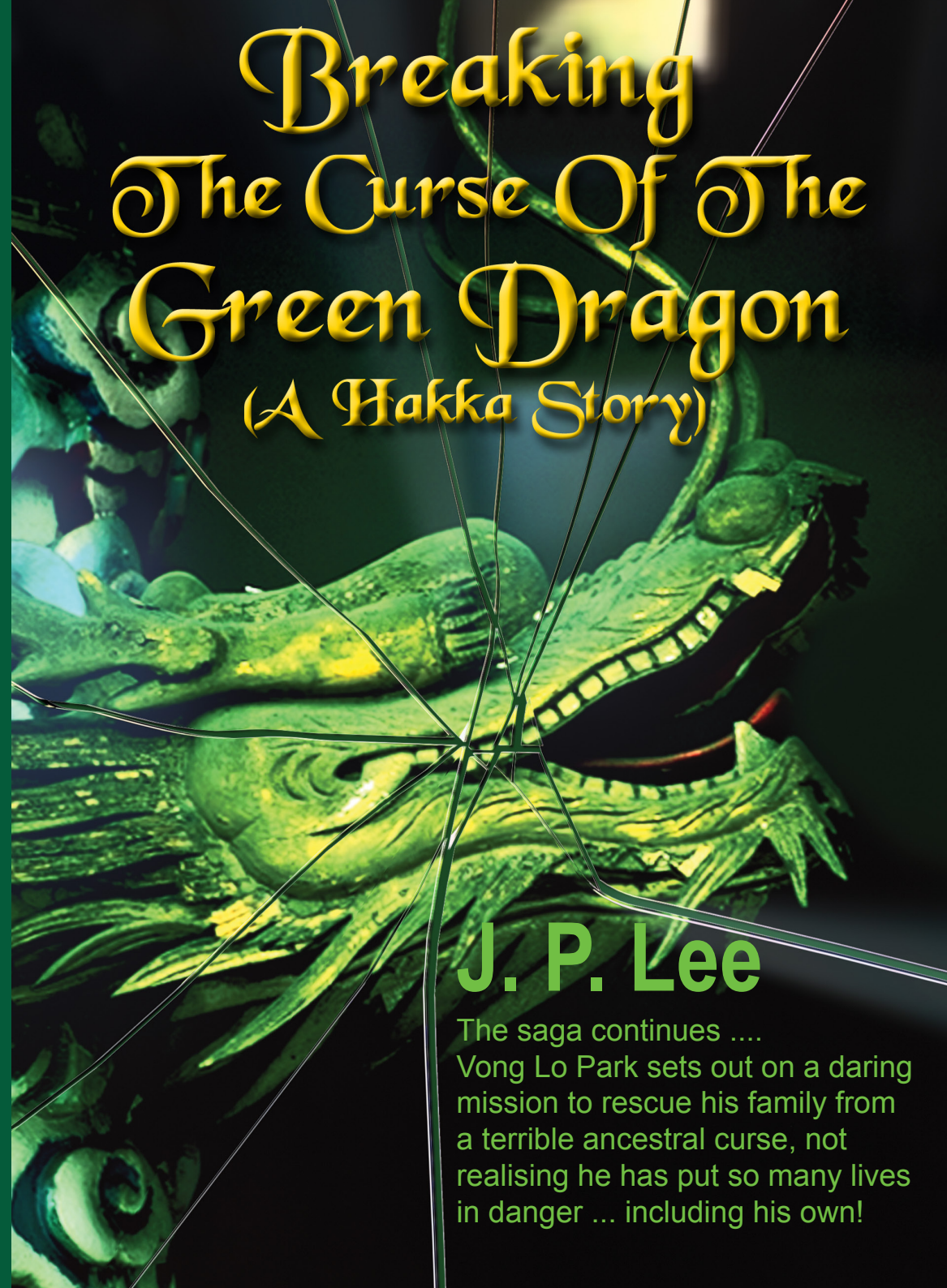
Breaking the Curse of the Green Dragon (A Hakka Story) is a stimulating and poignant story of intense conflict between good and evil. The author superbly unfolds his theme on The Inheritance Of Sins through the book's central figure, Vong Lo Park, a spin-off character from his earlier novel, *Curse of the Green Dragon (A Hakka Story)*. Both books focus intently on the curse, an inheritance of familial sexual misconduct, drawing the reader to its intriguing reality through unashamed explicit dramatisation of temptations and indulgences. Although written as a sequel, this latest novel can stand entirely on its own - thanks to the author's ingenuity to fill in those relevant missing years at the opportune time.

This constant conflict between good and evil is dramatised in the book through ordinary daily situations played by colourful and passionate characters. What people are has much to do with the way they have lived and experienced life; what they become has everything to do with the choices they make in life. In some sections, the author takes the reader to the unseen spiritual realm of the wandering spirits that lay waiting ... seeking to govern people's lives by controlling their faculties, directing their beliefs and influencing their choices with promises of personal rewards giving them a sense of power and dominance. Is this a blessing or ... a curse?

Breaking The Curse Of The Green Dragon (A Hakka Story)

J. P. Lee

The saga continues
Vong Lo Park sets out on a daring mission to rescue his family from a terrible ancestral curse, not realising he has put so many lives in danger ... including his own!



BREAKING THE CURSE OF THE GREEN DRAGON

(A Hakka Story)

J. P. LEE



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DEDICATION

This book is dedicated to my mother,

TERESA BONG NYUK CHIN,

who passed away on 26 August 2002, in Kuching

just two months after I had

read her my manuscript.

AUTHOR'S DECLARATION

This is a book of fiction.

Although the names of actual people, places and organisations have been made use of, their interaction with and reference to other characters in the book are completely fictitious. They are written out of the author's own imagination and serve only to provide a historical background with regard to location and period so as to add realism and drama to the story.

FOREWORD

The first question I put to J.P. Lee, the author of this book, is whether this second book follows from the first and whether as readers we need to know the full story of the GREEN DRAGON in order to fully appreciate the value and achievement of BREAKING THE CURSE? In his typical enigmatic way he said, "Well, yes and no. This book broadly follows from the first (you need to have the Green Dragon to Break Its Curse!) But you don't have to read the first book first in order to understand the second. But I can bet you, you will come back to the Green Dragon after reading Breaking the Curse."

And I did!

The story of BREAKING THE CURSE is intricate, long, almost epic in its delineation and dramatic in its masterly treatment of those primeval forces which shape our fate and destiny and sometimes even our day-to-day behaviour, especially at those baffling moments which signal the major landmarks of our lives! Thus the central character of Vong Lo Park remains, at least to me and for me, a mystifying character, someone whose life defies any clear categorization, a man whose life and sensibility is fascinatingly rich, tantalizingly seductive and frighteningly awesome. Reading the first book helps greatly in our understanding of his genealogy and we can debate more effectively whether because he carries the seeds of his forefathers that he behaves the way he does here.

For the seed shall be tested by its fruit. Whichever way we understand this age old dictum, our ancient wisdom insists that inheritance is fundamental to our fate. So do chance, accident, context play a determining role? These are questions which have been raised, asked and discussed for centuries without any clear and definitive answers. As we read through these mystifying books by our author we still don't come any closer to getting answers to these riddling questions but we do come near to appreciating their full complexities. The many dramatic incidents and people who weave in and out of the novels' plots, the many colourful characters who give ballast to the centrality of good and evil in our existence, the numerous interventions of factors vaguely political but specifically cultural, all of these are beautifully synchronized to produce narratives which bind us to the books and keep our eyes glued to the pages!

Those of us who have had the good fortune of meeting and getting to know the author – the inimitable Johnny Lee and his many “lives” (as a respected dental surgeon, as a devotee of the wonderful songs of the 60s and the 70s, as a delectable conversationalist, as an intellectually robust seeker after truth!) – know that for the author these books/novels mean more than just ‘good reads’. He has put a lot of passion and energy into their making and even a cursory reading leaves little doubt as to the seriousness of his own engagement and attachment to the many diverse issues these books cover, mostly in a fictional and imaginary world where dreams and dragons exist, but also in the more real world of real living where we each have to resolve our own traumas and confront and exorcise our own demons.

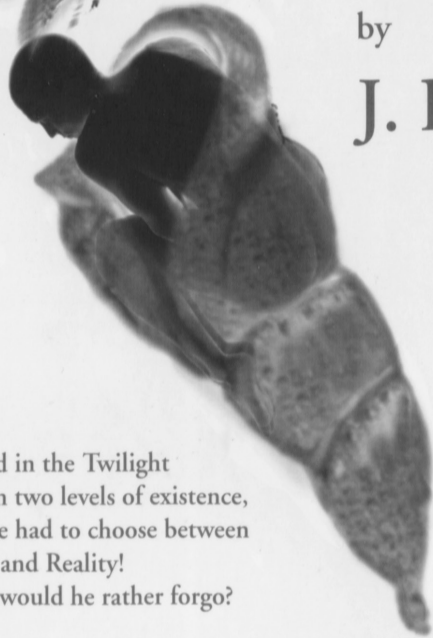
I ploughed through both books in a hurry, wanting to get to the ‘bottom of things’: I don’t know if I have succeeded. I doubt it. We don’t succeed in these matters in a hurry. And yet the ‘pace’ of the books demands a quick read. All this means we need to return to the books and read them all over again. Though modestly subtitled as “hakka stories” we know that the books go well beyond the narrow confines of a clan, or a specific group or even a specific nation. The larger themes of good and evil which are at the very centre of Lee’s preoccupations do not date and they have no specific locale: these are big themes inviting big attention and exploration.

And it is this **exploration** which I want to commend. Yes, the books could have been written in different ways, with different and differing emphases, but then they will not be the same books. These are sprawling narratives of a sprawling community over decades but the focus is never too far from our gaze. The author has to be praised for combining **fun** so exquisitely with **morality**, for I believe in the end Lee wants us to read these books as fables, as allegories, as stories to not only enrich our lives but aid us in making the humdrum rich and colourful and clean. There is a healing in simple cleansing. And as the good doctor of teeth knows so well, fronting and knowing are the first steps towards self-understanding. And these two books do precisely that.

Dr Kirpal Singh
Associate Professor
Singapore Management University
March 2004

COME, COME FLY WITH ME

J. P. Lee



Come, come fly with me

by
J. P. Lee

Trapped in the Twilight
between two levels of existence,
Zebedee had to choose between
Dream and Reality!
Which would he rather forgo?

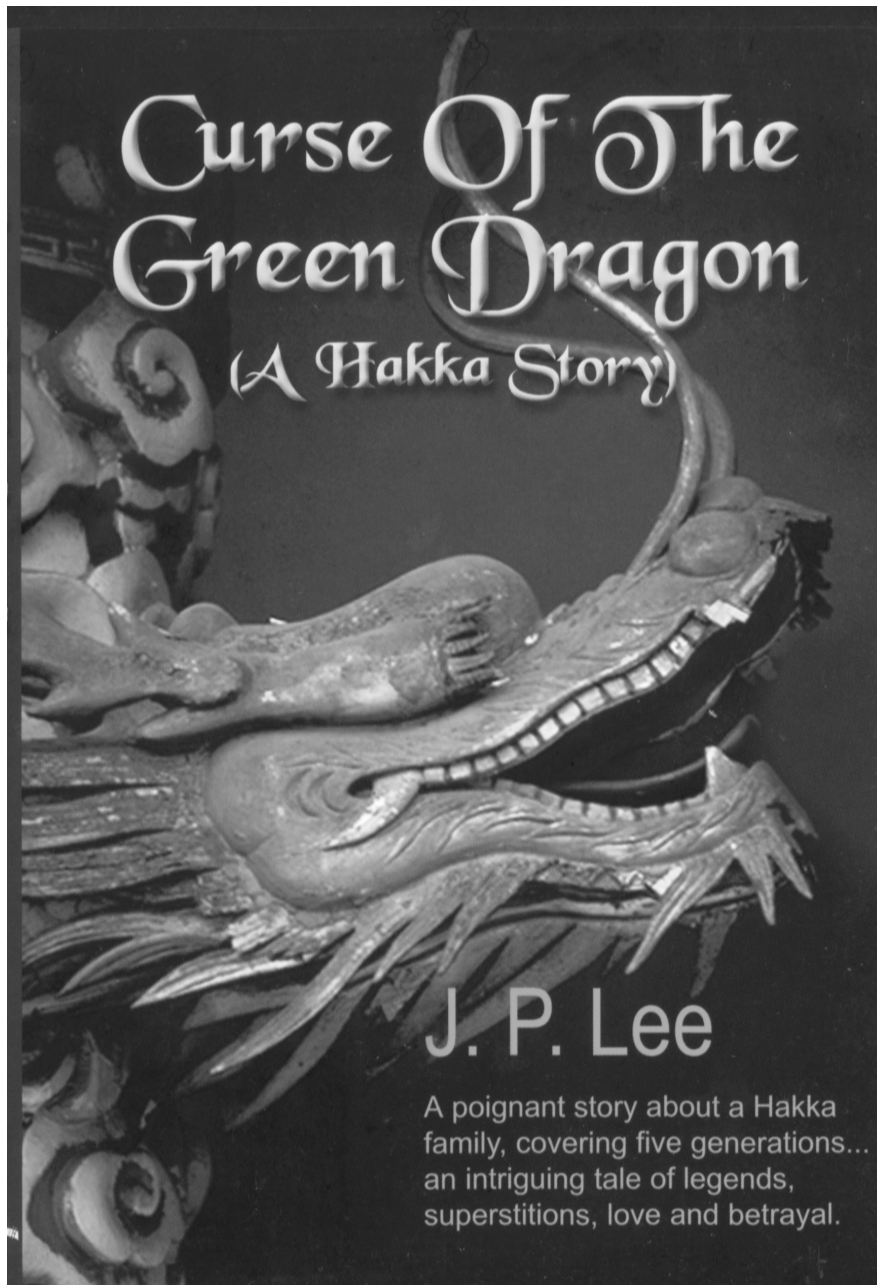


Laugh Laugh Laugh



A Humorous View Of Life

Manny Larfs



Curse Of The Green Dragon (A Hakka Story)

“J. P. Lee, a dental surgeon, who has written books about childhood trauma, peppers his story with words and legends from the dialect group. An interesting read for Hakkas and non-Hakkas alike” - *Life! The Straits Times*.

“This book, *Curse Of The Green Dragon*, intrigued me to keep wanting to read on; it’s the sort of book that would haunt me in my dreams. How I wish that more epic tales were written like this” - *Book Review, The Sarawak Tribune*.

“This book is an easy read, language and plot-wise; the promised elements of ‘legends, superstitions, love and betrayal’ are all there plus the constant conflicts between good and evil” - *The Star*.

“The history of the Hakkas and the spirit of their people have been captured in this new book by J. P. Lee, who marries historical and cultural facts with a fictional story spanning five generations” - *The Write Stuff, MediaCorp Radio Singapore International*.

“Where do the Hakkas come from? What do you know about them? Join Dr Johnny Lee at 10.10am to find out more about the Hakkas and his book, *Curse Of The Green Dragon (A Hakka Story)*” - *The Living Room, NewsRadio 93.8FM*.

“An excellent way to actually fuse fiction and facts by telling it through a story” - *Passion 99.5FM, National Arts Council Singapore*.

“Obviously, written by a proud Hakka, this over-the-top adulation might be offensive to non-Hakka Chinese” - *NTUC Lifestyle*

J. P. Lee’s third book is densely packed with dramatic incidents, is filled with colourful and passionate characters, and infused with spiritual philosophy of compassion and self-knowledge” - *Stella Kon*